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MAN SENTENCED FOR IDENTITY THEFT CHARGES

CONCORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE – United States Attorney Tom Colantuono announced today that **CHRISTOPHER BROWN**, 51, 40 Rebecca Road, Scituate, Massachusetts, was sentenced in U.S. District Court in Concord to 18 months in federal prison following his conviction on a two-count information for identity theft crimes. Brown pleaded guilty to identity theft related bank fraud charges on September 1, 2005.

Brown, 51, pleaded guilty to charges that he created counterfeit checks and forged the signatures of the rightful owner of the account on the counterfeit checks. Brown admitted to doing this after being supplied with stolen mail belonging to the victim in September of 2003.

The charges and apprehension of Brown resulted from Brown's activities being brought to the attention of an Identity Theft and Fraud Working Group organized in the U.S. Attorney's office which brings together both federal and state law enforcement agencies to combat identity theft and fraud. An intensive and coordinated investigation by agents of the Nashua Police Department, and the U.S. Postal Inspection Service resulted in Brown's apprehension.

U.S. Attorney Colantuono very highly commended the Nashua Police Department, and the U.S. Postal Inspector's Service, stating, "The vigilance of the Nashua Police Department, which first began investigation of the fraud, followed by their joint efforts and outstanding cooperation with the Postal Inspection Service required to unravel the facts of this case, stands as a fine example of law enforcement work and professionalism at its best. This should serve as a warning to anyone contemplating identity fraud that they will be detected, apprehended, and prosecuted."

Assistant U. S. Attorney Alfred Rubega prosecuted this case.